

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 DODE-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03

SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 OMB-01 L-03 DRC-01

EB-11 SCEM-02 SCI-06 INT-08 NEA-10 COME-00 /128 W

----- 124875

R 300836Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8625

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG

S E C R E T BANGKOK 18625

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, CB

SUBJECT: CAMBODIA RESUPPLY: POL SUPPLY CRISIS

REF: A. STATE 232191, B. PHNOM PENH 12901, C. BANGKOK 17830

1. IN COURSE OF MAKING DISCREET INQUIRIES OF TWO LOCAL OIL FIRMS ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR INCREASING DELIVERIES TO CAMBODIA, REPLY WAS RECEIVED THAT IF POL EXPORTS TO CAMBODIA BECAME GENERALLY KNOWN IN THAILAND, A GOVERNMENT ENFORCED EMBARGO WOULD BE THE LIKELY RESULT.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT MAJOR OIL COMPANIES, INCLUDING THAI AND FOREIGN, WILL CONTINUE TO DO ALL POSSIBLE TO ASSIST CAMBODIA, BUT OF NECESSITY MUST GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO THAILAND'S OWN OIL PROBLEM (REFTEL C), ALL REPORTS OF WHICH INDICATE LIKELY GROWING SEVERITY UNLESS SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT CAN BE MADE WITH ARAB CRUDE SOURCES. (SOURCE IN MFA CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT VISIT TO THAILAND OF SAUDI ARABIAN MISSION FOR PURPOSE OF TRADING SAUDI CRUDE FOR THAI RICE AND CEMENT

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HAS BEEN CANCELLED. SAUDI MISSION, HOWEVER, CONTINUES TO

PLAN STOPS IN SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN FOR ABOVE PURPOSE.
DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CHARTCHAI'S TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA HAS
ALSO BEEN CANCELLED, THEREBY WEAKENING HOPES OF QUICK SOLUTION
TO OIL CRISIS IN THAILAND.) UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES,
APPEARS HIGHLY UNLIKELY RTG WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO EMBASSY
PLEA TO DIRECT OIL COMPANIES TO INCREASE EXPORTS TO CAMBODIA.
KINTNER

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NNN

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